Attorney Docket No. 21066.00 Confirmation No. 7438

Application No.: 10/619,486

Art Unit: 3643

REMARKS

By the present amendment, Applicant has amended Claims 1, 5, 9 and 11, and cancelled Claims

4 and 8. Claims 1-3, 5-7 and 9-20 remain pending in the present application. Claims 1, 9, 11, and 14 are

independent claims. The fee of \$43.00 for the excess independent claim may be charged to Deposit

Account No. 12-1662 of the undersigned.

In the recent Office Action the Examiner rejected Claims 1 and 2 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as

being anticipated by Waugh, Jr. Claims 3, 6-8, and 13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being

unpatentable over Waugh, Jr. in view of Hibbert. The Examiner allowed Claims 14-20 and indicated that

Claims 4, 5, and 9-12 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of

the base claim and of any intervening claims.

The Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter is noted with appreciation. In this regard,

Applicant has amended independent Claim 1 to incorporate the allowable subject matter of Claim 4. Claims

9 and 11 have been rewritten in independent form. Incorporated Claims 4 and 8 have been cancelled, and

the dependency of Claim 5 has been changed to now depend from Claim --1--. Applicant respectfully

submits that for at least these reasons, independent Claims 1, 9, and 11, as amended, and the corresponding

dependent Claims 2, 3, 5-7, 10, 12 and 13 are allowable over the prior art of record.

LITMAN LAW
OFFICES, LTD.
P.O. BOX 15035
ARLINGTON, VA 22215
(703) 486-1000

8

Application No.: 10/619,486

Art Unit: 3643

Attorney Docket No. 21066.00 Confirmation No. 7438

For the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that the present application is in condition for allowance. If such is not the case, the Examiner is requested to kindly contact the undersigned in an effort to satisfactorily conclude the prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard C. Litman

Registration No. 30,868

(703) 486-1000

RCL: dht/gps

LITMAN LAW OFFICES, LTD. P.O. BOX 15035 ARLINGTON, VA 22215 (703) 486-1000